by other countries are concerned, it has much to do with the immigration problem and every country makes its own assessment. I would request the hon. Member not to ask me to elaborate it further.

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Certainly there is no immigration problem with Indonesia. If Indonesia can have a system for Indonesians to go to 35 countries and they permit them, we can think about it.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I am quite willing to liberalise it.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Sir, the hon. Minister has a knack of showing innocence over a matter and look at very highly undesirable things as very desirable. May I know from the Minister whether the concept of reciprocity is unknown in the matter of visa? Sir, it is so humiliating here in India to approach for visas to different countries and the hon. Minister knows about it. So far as we are concerned, he has said that we will do what suits us. It is a very simplistic answer. May I know from the hon. Minister this thing? Does he believe that there should be some degree of reciprocity? The other countries should also show the same degree of liberality as we are showing. Or does he think that it is wholly irrelevant? If so, for what reason?

Secondly, he says that visa fee is not a fund-raising matter. Why is it not, Sir? That means that we are lossing one million pounds. Has he known of a single case when a person has given up a trip to India because the visa fee is more? It is an amazing answer that he has given. Nobody takes it into account. Therefore, my question is this. Why are we forgoing valuable foreign exchange on the plea that it is not a fund raising thing? If it is not fund-raising, then why are you charging anything at all? *It is a fund-raising proposition.*

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Sir, my hon. friend Mr. Salve, is an extremely good advocate for bad cases. The main point is that most of the people who come here are people of Indian origin and I have sympathy for them. If they come and tell me that visa stands in the way, I will not let that happen.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The trouble is that in the Indian culture we have the concept of atithi devo bhava. How can you charge fee? (*Interruptions*) Are you opposing it or supporting it? Are you saying that atithi devo bhava should be there or not? Atithi devo bhava means that we welcome the gest as God sent.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Our history demonstrates that when we welcome guests, we land in trouble.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So you want to change it.

*284. [The question (*Shri Jagdish Jani*) *was absent. For col.* vide cols. 37-38 infra]

Visit of Chinese Prime Minister to India

*285. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:†
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the press interview of the Chinese Prime Minister, Mr. Li Peng at Singapore in mid-August to the effect that he intends to visit India in the near fuure to improve bilateral relations; if so, whether there is any move to fix the timings of the propos ed visit; and

(b) what is the Chinese stand on India's latest problems with Pakistan

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Veena Verma.

and whether Government are keeping China informed of the developments vis-a-vis Pakistan and if so, what is the response?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Chinese Premier, Mr. Li Peng, has been invited to visit India. It is expected that his visit will impart further positive momentum to the development of India-China relations. Dates for the visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

(b) The Chinese Government have stated that India and Pakistan should resolve their problems peacefully through negotiations.

Government's concern regarding Pakistan's involvement with terrorism and subvedsion in Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir has been made known to the Chinese Government.

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Sir, a message from Mr. Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister was handed over to our Prime Minister by a senior member of the Cental Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, and the Minister met him in last June. They also met the Prime Minister. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what was the content of the message and what was the outcome of some of the talks?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Sir, various Party delegations have been and are visiting China. And, I think, all of them have in a very positive fashion projected that Government of India's policies.

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: What has been the result of the efforts to bring about improvement in relations between the two countries? What has been the progress so far and what further measures have been taken?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Sir, starting with the former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's visit to China which had very positive results, the situation and the relations between the two of us have been improving a great deal. The projected visit or the expected visit of Chinese Prime Minister is a continuity of the same process of improving relations between the two of us.'

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Sir, the main problem between India and China is the boundary question. And I am glad that the second meeting of the Joint Working Group set up during Shri Rajiv Gandhi's visit is taking place on 31st August to settle the issue. Now, the main stand of China is that re-alignment of the Line of Control in Ladhak will depend on concessions given by us in the East. Now, I want to know what the attitude of the Government of India is on this. What has been the result of the Joint Working Group's first meeting? And of eight rounds of official level talks have taken place already. What has been the outcome of those talks? And what does he expect from this Joint Working Group's next meeting? And I want to know how does China view the normalisation of relations with Nepal. I am asking this question because when Mr. Bhattarai visited India, the Chinese press said that there was a secret agreement reached between Mr. Bhattarai and Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh. And the import of armaments into Nepal which was stopped just before the Nepalese Prime Minister's visit was resumed three days after he reached Kathmandu. So, I want to know what is the Chinese attitude now about our relationship with Nepal. I also asked about the boundary question.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Sir, the Chinese delegation is expected here tomorrow, and the delegation will be here for three days and there will discussions on the boundary issues in the Joint working Group. As you know, Sir, the last meeting was held

in an atmosphere which helped in creating better prospects. And, I think, at this stage I should not be asked to announce as to what would be the area of discussion because discussions are delicate, and they will be held tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has asked about Nepal.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Regarding Nepal, our bilateral relations have been very adequately spelt in the Joint Communique which we have already signed.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: How do Chinese view imrovement of relations between India and Nepal because Chinese are our main rivals in Nepal?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Even Chinese views or anybody else's views regarding our bilateral relations with our neighbours, we do consider them but they do not decide our policies.

SHRI KAPIL VERMA: They will not decide our policies. But how have they reacted? Have they stopped their nefarious activties or not?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sukomal Sen.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Sir, once the Prime Minister of China will visit India, the bilateral relations will be taken up. Sir, the main problem between China and India is the border dispute about which official level talks are going on, and further discussion will also take place. I want to know from the hon. Minister that when the Chinese Prime Minister visits India, will there be Prime Minister level talks on the border dispute betwen the Prime Minister of China and India.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: The border talks are to be held in the meeting of the joint working group which is meeting from tommorrow. So far as the question of the last visit of the Chinese Foreign Minister of my own visit—expected to be in October—or the Chinese Prime Minister's visit is concerned, these are not the fora for discussion of the details.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Sir, the hon. Minister very well knows that I am a strong advocate of improvement of our relations with China. I feel. . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put your question. He knows it.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Still there are some sanskars which have to be maintained during Question Hour.

I feel that we tend to get easily carried away by superficial symbols from China For instance, Mao's smile made us go into raptures. Similarly, in the case of the Chinese Prime Minister statement. The statement of the Chinese Prime Minister in Singapore was a casual one. When he was asked, he said 'I will go to India'. No one is going to say "I will not go to India'. What I would like to know is, if the Prime Minister of China is really coming to India, whether there are any other areas—outside the border dispute—where we have some serious dispute or difference with China which the Government thinks need to be worked out within the bilateral framework?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: When the former Prime Minister visited China, he invited the Prime Minister of China to come here. This invitation has been renewed by Mr. V.P. Singh and it has been accepted. Therefore, it was not a causal remark of the hCinese Prime Minister. It was a remark made after consideration. The invitation has been accepted. We will be finalising the dates.

So far as the subjects to be discussed are concerned, I think we will attend to everything when we work out the agenda.

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Sir, the opinion of all the delegations which returned from China is that there is great warmth and friendship not only between the leaders but also between the people of the two countries . Therefore, will the Government consider strenthening the contacts with China in various fields like culture, trade, technological transfer; industry, agriculture, etc.; and talking fresh initiatives in this direction because Indo-Chnia friendship can play a great role in shaping the future of the world?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I agree with him.

अन्तर्राज्य परिषद के कार्य

***286. श्री अरविन्द गणेश कुलकर्णी :†**
श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल :

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या नवनिर्मित अन्तर्राज्यीय परिषद पानी के बंटवारे, सीमाओं का समायोजन जैसे लम्बे अर्से से चले आ रहे अन्तर्राज्य विवादों का हल निकालने के लिये प्रयत्न करने का विचार रखती है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस समय किन-किन राज्यों से संबंधित कितने कितने विवाद लम्बित हैं ?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुबोध कान्त सहाय) : (क) अन्तर्राज्य परिषद आदेश 1990 के खण्ड 4 में सम्मिलित परिषद के कार्य निम्न प्रकार हैं :—

(क) ऐसे विषयों की जांच करना और उन पर विचार विमर्श करना, जिनमें कुछ या सारे राज्यों अथवा संघ तथा एक या एक से अधिक राज्यों का संयुक्त हित हो, जैसा कि इसके समक्ष प्रस्तुत किये जाएं।

(ख) ऐसे किसी विषय पर सिफारिश करना और विशेष रूप से उस विषय के संबंध में नीति और कार्रवाई के बेहतर समन्वय के लिए सिफारिशें करना, और

(ग) राज्यों के सामान्य हित के ऐसे अन्य मामलों पर विचार-विमर्श करना, जो अध्यक्ष द्वारा परिषद को भेजे जाएं।

अंतर्राज्य परिषद को लम्बे समय से राज्यों के बीच चल रहे विवादों पर निर्णय देने का कार्य नहीं दिया गया है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, I had asked whether the Inter-State Council proposes to address itself to find solutions of long-standing inter-State disputes. But the statement is silent on his. The Home Minister, Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, promised during the last Session that he would call the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Karnataka, have a meeting and amicably settle the problem. Has this meeting of the Council taken place? Has Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed called the two Chief Ministers? If not, what is the schedule? When is he going to call both of them for a meeting and, once and for all, find a solution this vexed problem?

श्री सुबोध कान्त सहाय : सभापति महोदय, यह कौंसिल की मीटिंग प्रोपोज्ड है और वह सितम्बर लास्ट या अक्तूबर के मिडल में होने की संभावना है, और उसमें यह सरकारिया कमीशन के तहत— यह सारे डिस्प्यूट्स उसमें नहीं आते हैं जो उनके सुझाव हैं।

† सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री अरविन्द गणेश कुलकर्णी द्वारा पूछा गया।